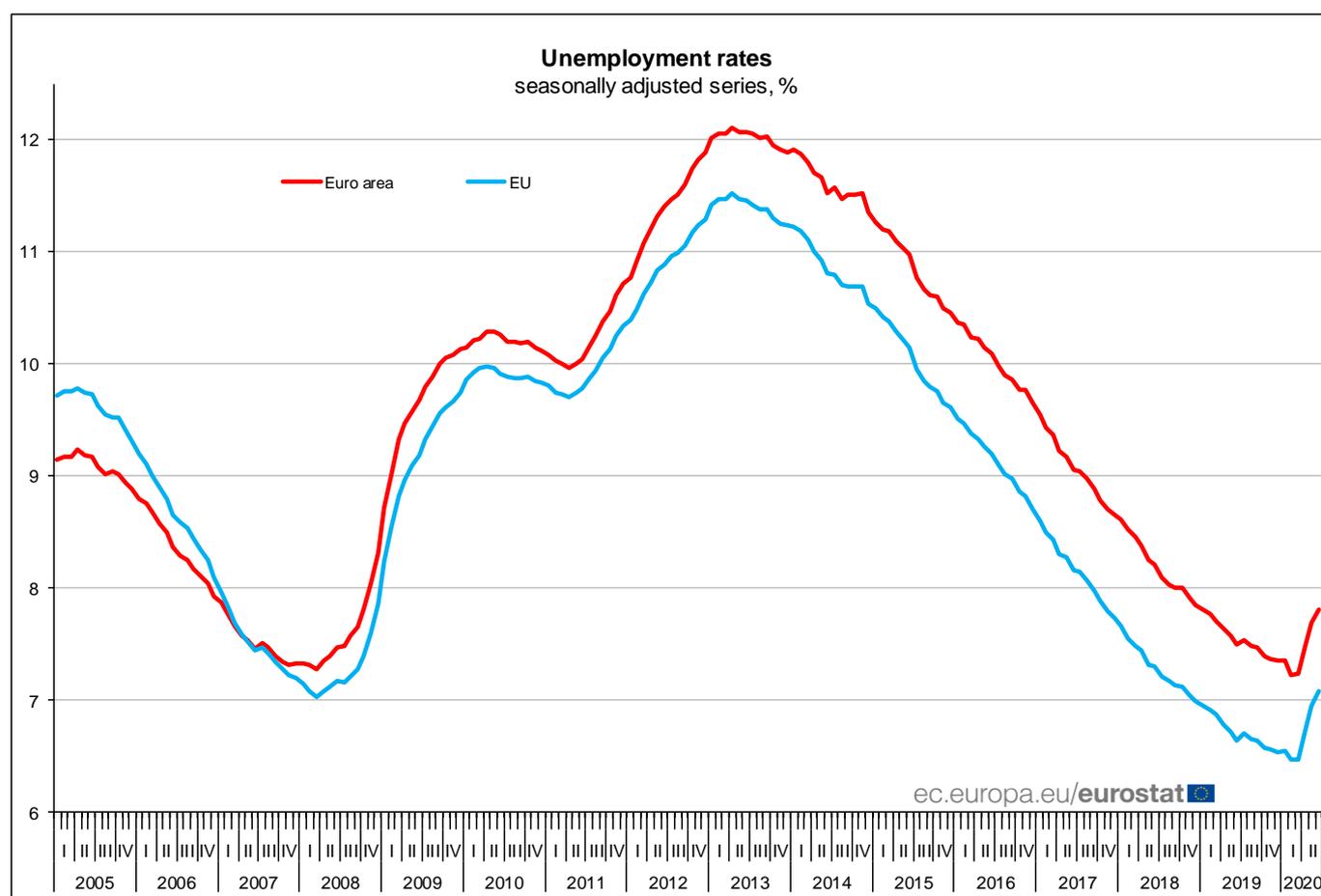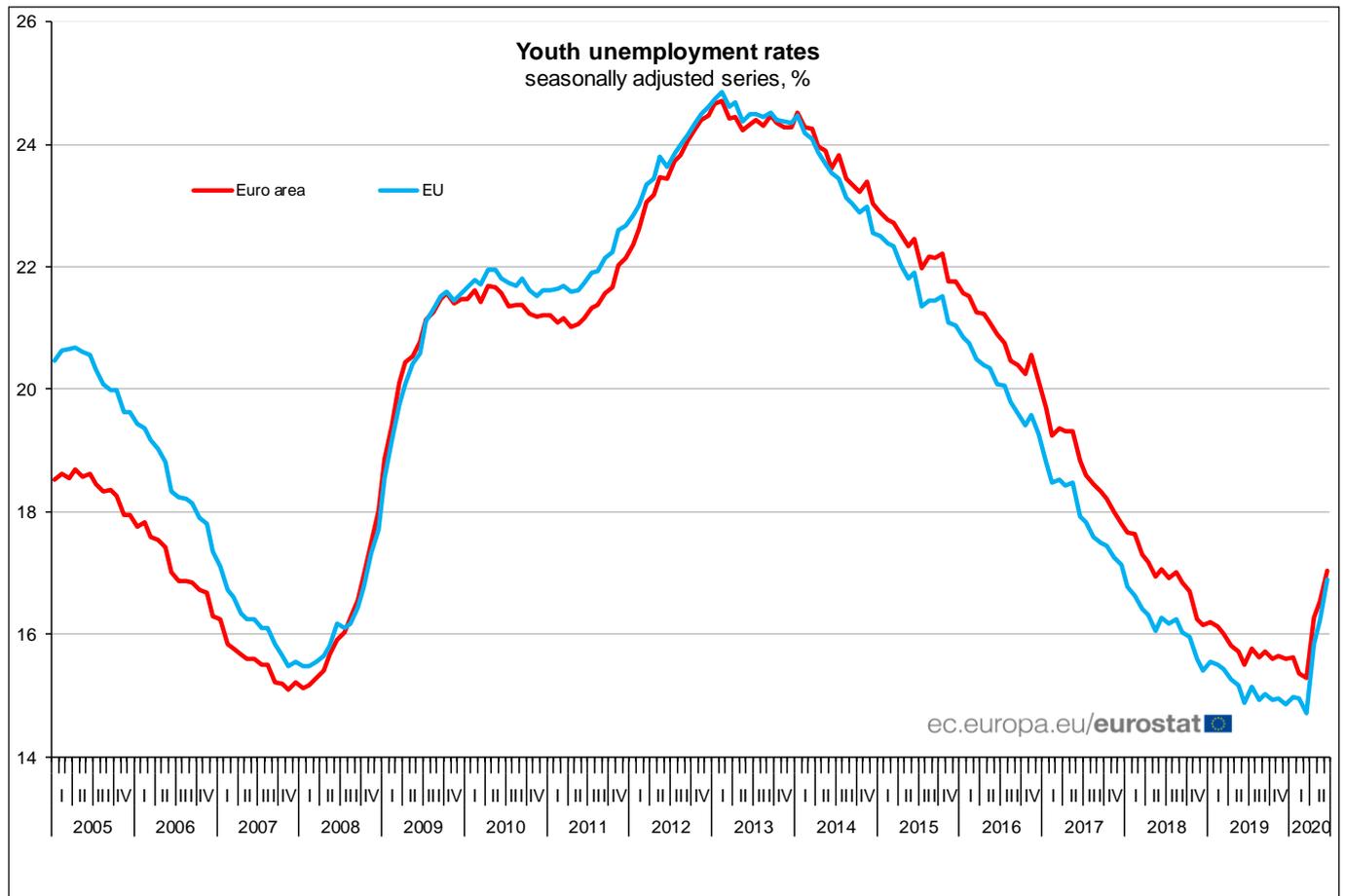June 2020

Euro area unemployment at 7.8%

EU at 7.1%

In June 2020, the month when COVID-19 containment measures started being phased out in most Member States, the **euro area** seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was 7.8%, up from 7.7% in May 2020. The **EU** unemployment rate was 7.1% in June 2020, up from 7.0% in May 2020. These figures are published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**.

Eurostat estimates that 15.023 million men and women in the **EU**, of whom 12.685 million in the **euro area**, were unemployed in June 2020. Compared with May 2020, the number of persons unemployed increased by 281 000 in the **EU** and by 203 000 in the **euro area**.

Unemployment rates
seasonally adjusted series, %

Youth unemployment

In June 2020, 2.962 million young persons (under 25) were unemployed in the **EU**, of whom 2.360 million were in the **euro area**. In June 2020, the youth unemployment rate was 16.8% in the **EU** and 17.0% in the **euro area**, up from 16.2% and 16.5% respectively in the previous month. Compared with May 2020, youth unemployment increased by 124 000 in the **EU** and by 80 000 in the **euro area**.

Youth unemployment rates
seasonally adjusted series, %

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Unemployment by gender

In June 2020, the unemployment rate for women was 7.5% in the **EU**, up from 7.3% in May 2020. The unemployment rate for men was 6.7% in June 2020, up from 6.6% in May 2020. In the **euro area**, the unemployment rate for women increased from 8.1% in May 2020 to 8.3% in June 2020 while it increased from 7.3% to 7.4% for men.

These estimates are based on the globally used International Labour Organisation standard definition of unemployment, which counts as unemployed people without a job who have been actively seeking work in the last four weeks and are available to start work within the next two weeks. The COVID-19 confinement measures applied since March 2020 have triggered a sharp increase in the number of claims for unemployment benefits across the EU. At the same time, a significant part of those who had registered in unemployment agencies were no longer actively looking for a job, e.g. limited by the confinement measures or no longer available for work, for instance, if they had to take care of their children during the lockdown. This leads to discrepancies in the number of registered unemployed and those measured as unemployed according to the ILO definition.

To capture in full the unprecedented labour market situation triggered by the COVID-19 outbreak, the data on unemployment have been complemented by additional indicators, e.g. on employment, underemployment and potential additional labour force participants, released together with LFS quarterly data for 2020.

Geographical information

The **euro area** (EA19) includes Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia and Finland.

The **European Union** (EU27) includes Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland and Sweden.

Methods and definitions

Eurostat publishes harmonised unemployment rates for individual EU Member States, the euro area and the EU. These unemployment rates are based on the definition recommended by the International Labour Organisation (ILO). The measurement is based on a harmonised data source, the European Union Labour Force Survey (LFS).

Based on the ILO definition, Eurostat defines **unemployed persons** as persons aged 15 to 74 who:
>   - are without work;
>   - are available to start work within the next two weeks;
>   - and have actively sought employment at some time during the previous four weeks.

Examples: Mr X was employed as a technician in the manufacturing sector until March but did not work from April until June due to the lockdown. His employment contract has not been broken and he has been assured by his employer he could return to work in July. Mr X therefore keeps an attachment to his job in the LFS meaning and is thus not recorded as unemployed.

Mrs Y was employed as an accountant until March but was dismissed in April by her employer due to the drop in activity. Mrs Y has actively searched for a new job on the internet with a view to be recruited as soon as the situation in the labour market improves. She is immediately available to start teleworking for her next employer. Mrs Y will be recorded as unemployed.

Mrs Z was unemployed, actively looking for a job until the COVID outbreak. She then interrupted her job searches in order to take care of her children until schools reopen full-time and the situation in the labour market improves. Mrs Z will be counted as inactive and not as unemployed in June.

The **unemployment rate** is the number of people unemployed as a percentage of the labour force.

Series have been **seasonally adjusted** using the seasonal factors estimated in the period up to December 2019 included. Those seasonal factors will be kept unchanged ('controlled concurrent adjustment method') until the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak can be integrated in seasonal adjustment models.

The **labour force** is the total number of people employed plus unemployed. In this news release unemployment rates are based on employment and unemployment data covering persons aged 15 to 74.

The **youth unemployment rate** is the number of people aged 15 to 24 unemployed as a percentage of the labour force of the same age. Therefore, the youth unemployment rate should not be interpreted as the share of jobless people in the overall youth population.

When data for the most recent month are not available for a Member State, EU and EA aggregates are calculated using the latest data available for that Member State.

Country notes

Germany, the Netherlands, Austria, Finland, Sweden and Iceland: the trend component is used instead of the more volatile seasonally adjusted data.

Denmark, Estonia, Hungary, Portugal, the United Kingdom and Norway: 3-month moving averages of LFS data are used instead of pure monthly indicators.

Germany: due to the introduction of the new German system of integrated household surveys, including the LFS, the monthly unemployment rate for June 2020 is an estimation based on the figures recorded in previous periods, taking into account current developments.

Revisions and timetable

The data in this News Release can be subject to revisions, caused by updates to the seasonally adjusted series whenever new monthly data are added; the inclusion of the most recent LFS data in the calculation process; update of seasonal adjustment models with complete annual data.

Compared with the rates published in News Release 103/2020 of 2 July 2020, the May unemployment rate for the euro area and the EU has been revised by 0.2 percentage points (pp) upwards. Among EU Member States, no rate has been revised by more than 0.1 percentage points downwards. The rate has been revised by more than 0.1 percentage points (pp) upwards for Spain (by 0.9 pp), Austria, Denmark and Italy (by 0.5 pp), Portugal (0.4 pp) as well as Germany and Finland (both by 0.2 pp).

For more information

Eurostat website section on employment and unemployment

Eurostat database section on unemployment, including non-seasonally adjusted and trend data

Eurostat Statistics Explained articles on unemployment and on youth unemployment

Eurostat metadata on adjusted unemployment series and methodological note regarding COVID-19 outbreak

Eurostat €-indicators release calendar

European Statistics Code of Practice

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Seasonally adjusted unemployment, totals

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	June 19	Mar 20	Apr 20	May 20	June 20	June 19	Mar 20	Apr 20	May 20	June 20
Euro area	7.5	7.2	7.5	7.7	**7.8**	12 290	11 853	12 200	12 482	**12 685**
EU	6.6	6.5	6.7	7.0	**7.1**	14 199	13 808	14 324	14 742	**15 023**
Belgium	5.4	5.1	5.3	5.4	**5.5**	278	259	273	277	**282**
Bulgaria	4.0	4.1	4.8	4.6	**4.4**	136	135	161	154	**147**
Czechia	1.8	2.1	2.2	2.4	**2.6**	98	111	117	126	**139**
Denmark	4.6	4.8	5.0	5.5	**5.8**	139	145	149	163	**175**
Germany	3.0	3.8	3.9	4.1	**4.2**	1 320	1 662	1 745	1 816	**1 865**
Estonia	5**	4.8	6.0	7.0	**:**	35**	34	42	48	**:**
Ireland	5.1	5.3	5.4	5.6	**5.3**	124	130	133	138	**131**
Greece	17.5*	14.5	15.5	:	**:**	832*	656	709	:	**:**
Spain	14.2	14.5	15.4	15.4	**15.6**	3 267	3 314	3 431	3 373	**3 387**
France	8.5	7.6	8.8	8.2	**7.7**	2 514	2 258	2 627	2 442	**2 300**
Croatia	6.6	6.8	8.1	8.9	**8.8**	118	121	148	164	**161**
Italy	9.6	8.4	6.8	8.3	**8.8**	2 489	2 118	1 677	2 054	**2 204**
Cyprus	7.2	6.7	8.9	10.2	**9.8**	32	30	41	47	**45**
Latvia	6.4	7.4	9.0	9.8	**10.1**	62	73	88	95	**98**
Lithuania	6.2	6.6	8.6	9.3	**9.4**	91	97	128	138	**139**
Luxembourg	5.7	6.6	7.5	7.7	**7.7**	18	20	23	24	**24**
Hungary	3.4**	3.7	4.1	4.8	**:**	161**	169	191	222	**:**
Malta	3.3	3.5	4.1	4.3	**4.2**	8	9	11	12	**11**
Netherlands	3.4	2.9	3.4	3.6	**4.3**	313	273	314	330	**404**
Austria	4.4	4.7	5.0	5.9	**5.7**	200	210	219	262	**255**
Poland	3.3	2.9	2.9	2.9	**3.0**	553	490	492	500	**520**
Portugal	6.6	6.2	6.3	5.9	**7.0**	341	317	319	290	**351**
Romania	3.8	4.6	4.8	5.2	**5.2**	343	414	432	463	**467**
Slovenia	4.5	4.3	4.7	4.8	**4.8**	46	44	49	49	**49**
Slovakia	5.8	5.8	6.4	6.5	**6.6**	157	158	175	179	**181**
Finland	6.8	6.9	7.1	7.2	**7.3**	186	190	194	199	**201**
Sweden	6.8	7.3	8.0	8.0	**9.3**	373	398	439	441	**513**
United Kingdom	3.7*	3.8	3.9	:	**:**	1259*	1 297	1 310	:	**:**
Iceland	3.4	3.5	3.9	4.5	**4.5**	7	7	8	9	**9**
Norway	3.4**	3.6	4.1	4.6	**:**	95**	101	116	131	**:**
Switzerland	4.4	4.3	:	:	**:**	216	213	:	:	**:**
United States	3.7	4.4	14.7	13.3	**11.1**	5 969	7 131	23 102	20 995	**17 704**

: Data not available   * April 2019   ** May 2019

Source datasets: une_rt_m (rates) and une_rt_m (in 1000 persons)

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Seasonally adjusted youth (under 25s) unemployment

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	June 19	Mar 20	Apr 20	May 20	June 20	June 19	Mar 20	Apr 20	May 20	June 20
Euro area	15.5	15.3	16.2	16.5	**17.0**	2 231	2 163	2 266	2 280	**2 360**
EU	14.9	14.7	15.8	16.2	**16.8**	2 708	2 624	2 793	2 838	**2 962**
Belgium	13.9	11.9	13.0	13.0	**13.0**	56	47	52	52	**52**
Bulgaria	9.1	12.0	14.2	12.3	**10.1**	13	15	20	18	**15**
Czechia	5.8	6.4	6.8	7.9	**8.2**	17	17	18	20	**21**
Denmark	8.6	10.0	10.3	11.4	**12.1**	38	43	44	48	**51**
Germany	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.6	**5.6**	249	244	244	243	**242**
Estonia	16.9	9.9	13.2	17.9	:	10	5	7	9	:
Ireland	13.3	12.6	12.5	13.2	**12.8**	39	39	38	40	**39**
Greece	34.6	33.4	33.6	:	:	81	73	74	:	:
Spain	32.7	34.0	37.8	39.1	**40.8**	506	504	515	495	**514**
France	19.3	18.4	21.9	21.4	**21.2**	546	521	650	633	**627**
Croatia	16.9	16.4	23.7	23.7	**23.7**	25	24	37	37	**37**
Italy	27.0	27.4	23.6	25.6	**27.6**	412	388	302	331	**360**
Cyprus	16.2	13.4	19.6	19.6	**19.6**	6	5	7	7	**7**
Latvia	13.9	14.5	17.2	18.4	**18.4**	8	9	11	12	**11**
Lithuania	10.3	15.9	17.0	18.5	**18.9**	11	18	18	20	**20**
Luxembourg	17.5	20.5	24.7	26.1	**26.7**	4	5	6	7	**7**
Hungary	11.3	11.9	13.5	15.9	:	37	38	42	49	:
Malta	8.2	10.5	12.4	12.3	**11.8**	2	3	4	4	**4**
Netherlands	6.5	6.3	8.4	9.5	**10.7**	97	94	119	132	**156**
Austria	9.0	10.8	11.6	11.7	**10.6**	46	54	57	58	**54**
Poland	10.8	9.2	9.1	9.0	**9.5**	134	111	111	111	**118**
Portugal	18.9	18.3	20.6	21.4	**25.6**	71	66	70	66	**81**
Romania	16.4	17.4	:	:	:	100	110	:	:	:
Slovenia	7.1	10.3	11.2	11.2	**11.2**	5	7	8	8	**8**
Slovakia	16.4	15.7	17.8	17.8	**18.1**	27	26	30	30	**30**
Finland	17.7	18.9	19.2	19.4	**19.4**	57	60	60	61	**61**
Sweden	19.9	21.4	24.9	24.9	**28.7**	126	125	150	150	**173**
United Kingdom	11.3	11.8	12.4	:	:	471	494	525	:	:
Iceland	7.6	8.2	10.1	11.3	**11.0**	2	2	3	3	**3**
Norway	10.0	10.0	10.3	11.8	:	37	37	38	44	:
Switzerland	7.6	8.2	:	:	:	45	48	:	:	:

: Data not available

Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Romania and Slovenia: quarterly data

Source datasets: une_rt_m (rates) and une_rt_m (in 1000 persons)

Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates (%), by gender

	Males					Females				
	June 19	Mar 20	Apr 20	May 20	June 20	June 19	Mar 20	Apr 20	May 20	June 20
Euro area	7.2	6.9	7.2	7.3	**7.4**	7.9	7.6	7.8	8.1	**8.3**
EU	6.4	6.2	6.5	6.6	**6.7**	7.0	6.8	7.0	7.3	**7.5**
Belgium	5.7	5.1	5.4	5.6	**5.9**	5.1	5.0	5.2	5.2	**5.1**
Bulgaria	4.3	4.3	5.0	4.8	**4.6**	3.7	3.9	4.6	4.4	**4.1**
Czechia	1.4	1.8	2.0	2.1	**2.5**	2.3	2.3	2.5	2.6	**2.7**
Denmark	4.6	4.6	4.7	5.0	**5.3**	4.6	5.0	5.3	6.0	**6.4**
Germany	3.4	4.0	4.1	4.2	**4.3**	2.6	3.5	3.8	4.0	**4.2**
Estonia	4.3	5.2	6.0	6.6	**:**	5.0	4.4	6.1	7.5	**:**
Ireland	5.2	5.3	5.4	5.5	**5.2**	5.0	5.2	5.4	5.7	**5.4**
Greece	13.9	12.8	12.8	:	**:**	21.3	16.6	19.0	:	**:**
Spain	12.6	13.1	14.2	14.2	**14.4**	16.0	16.1	16.8	16.9	**17.1**
France	8.5	7.5	8.6	7.8	**7.2**	8.4	7.8	8.9	8.5	**8.3**
Croatia	6.0	6.4	7.7	8.3	**8.2**	7.3	7.2	8.7	9.6	**9.4**
Italy	8.8	7.5	6.7	7.4	**8.0**	10.7	9.6	7.1	9.5	**10.0**
Cyprus	6.6	6.6	8.5	9.7	**9.7**	7.8	6.7	9.4	10.8	**10.0**
Latvia	7.7	8.3	9.5	10.3	**10.8**	5.1	6.6	8.4	9.2	**9.4**
Lithuania	6.9	7.3	9.5	10.2	**10.3**	5.5	5.8	7.7	8.4	**8.5**
Luxembourg	5.8	6.8	7.7	7.9	**7.9**	5.7	6.2	7.2	7.5	**7.6**
Hungary	3.5	3.5	4.0	4.4	**:**	3.5	3.9	4.3	5.3	**:**
Malta	3.2	3.7	3.8	3.9	**3.8**	3.4	3.3	4.6	4.9	**4.9**
Netherlands	3.4	2.9	3.6	3.6	**4.2**	3.3	2.9	3.3	3.6	**4.5**
Austria	4.5	4.8	4.9	6.4	**6.4**	4.3	4.6	5.1	5.2	**5.0**
Poland	3.1	2.8	2.8	2.9	**3.0**	3.5	2.9	2.9	3.0	**3.1**
Portugal	5.9	5.5	5.2	5.7	**6.8**	7.3	6.9	7.4	6.0	**7.2**
Romania	4.1	5.3	5.4	6.1	**5.5**	3.4	3.6	3.9	4.0	**5.0**
Slovenia	4.2	3.8	4.2	4.1	**4.2**	4.8	4.8	5.4	5.5	**5.5**
Slovakia	5.7	5.5	6.0	6.3	**6.5**	5.9	6.3	6.9	6.8	**6.7**
Finland	7.2	7.1	7.3	7.5	**7.6**	6.4	6.7	6.8	6.9	**7.0**
Sweden	6.7	7.1	8.1	8.1	**9.4**	6.9	7.5	7.8	7.9	**9.2**
United Kingdom	4.0	4.0	4.0	:	**:**	3.5	3.6	3.7	:	**:**
Iceland	3.7	3.4	3.8	4.4	**4.6**	3.1	3.6	4.0	4.6	**4.4**
Norway	3.9	3.7	4.2	4.8	**:**	3.4	3.4	4.0	4.5	**:**
Switzerland	4.2	4.0	:	:	**:**	4.6	4.7	:	:	**:**

: Data not available

Source dataset: une_rt_m